



# Train Collectors Association Western Division Newsletter



**Vol. 68, No. 4**

**July/August, 2022**

Visit [www.tcawestern.org](http://www.tcawestern.org) or contact [info@tcawestern.org](mailto:info@tcawestern.org)

## **TCA Upcoming Meets:**

- July 10 SWD Joint Meet**
- Aug. 20 Hot Dog Cookout**
- Sept. 24 Burbank Joslyn**

**On July 10th**, we're having a Joint Meet with TTOS Southwestern Division at the Masonic Center in Arcadia, CA. Details: page 2.

**August 20** - Backyard Cookout in Yorba Linda, CA. The theme is *Patriotic trains*. Details: page 3.

**September 24** - Joslyn Adult Center, 1301 West Olive Avenue Burbank, CA 91506 at 9 am. Theme: *Refrigerator Cars*.

**October 22** - Church of the Good Shepard, 400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007 at 9 am. Theme: *Spooky Trains*.

**November 19** - Joslyn Adult Center, 1301 West Olive Ave. Burbank, CA 91506 at 9 am. Theme: *Errors & buyer's goofs*.

**December 9 & 10** (Friday & Saturday) Joint Holiday Super Meet Brookhurst Community Center 2271 W. Crescent Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801 For info: <https://www.ttos-sp.org>.



After an unavoidable pandemic delay, our **Broguiere's Dairy** flatcar will ship very soon! Visit [www.tcawestern.org](http://www.tcawestern.org) to get yours. Also, check out our 2021 TCA Convention Logo'd Merchandise. We have ball caps, polo shirts, work shirts & dress shirts, sized to fit you. Please download an order form!



**TCA Photos by Roger Hill**

Steve Waller (left), Western Division's Immediate Past President, congratulates Tom Watson on his winning run for the presidency.

## ***Tom Watson Elected TCA Western Division President***

**T**he Ballots have been counted and certified by our Western Division Elections Supervisor Bob Spellmire. The voters have elected Tom Watson as our new Western Division President! The complete Board of Directors list is shown on page 4.

Tom Watson spoke about his candidacy at our most recent Western Division meet in Placentia on May 14th. He told us about his experience on the Board of Directors in the late 1980s and 1990s. Tom served as a Director-at-Large, Recording Secretary, Vice-President and ultimately Division President, in the latter capacity for three terms, 1994-1996.



Let's welcome Jim Spellmire (far left), newest member of Western Division.

Past President Bob Spellmire spoke up in favor of Tom Watson's candidacy, saying that when he worked with Mr. Watson on the Board, he could always count on him to get any task completed successfully and in a timely manner.

Tom humbly asked for everyone's help to make his presidency a success. *A new spirit of volunteerism will benefit our club! What can you do to help?* Please let a Board member know....

# July 10th Joint Meet at TTOS-SW Div. in Arcadia



The next TCA Western Division train meet is scheduled to take place on Sunday, **July 10th, 2022**. It will be conducted in Arcadia, CA at the Masonic Center, 50 Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007 at 10:00 AM, in partnership with T.T.O.S. Southwestern Division's monthly train meet.

We welcome all TCA members, their families, and any interested guest toy train collectors to come meet the members, browse the trading tables, and share in the camaraderie of toy train collecting. Free toy train repairs are available. Parts can be purchased from **Mike's Trains & Hobbies** at <https://mikestrainslompoc.com>.



Sellers can arrive as early as 8:00 AM to begin setting up their tables. (The meet officially opens at 10:00 AM.) Buyers arriving before 10:00 AM are asked to avoid interfering with sellers who are trying to set up their displays.

Seller's tables cost \$5.00 and can be reserved in advance of the meet by calling **Hollis Cotton at 818-590-0553**.

This meet will be open to the public. There are always more than 50 sellers and over 75 tables at these meets.



Admission for TCA members wearing their Western Division name badge is **free**. Everyone attending has to wear an authorized name badge to get into the meet, and all during the time they are in the building.

Non-members may enter the meet for \$5.00, but must obtain a sticker when paying the entry fee at the front desk.



**TCA members** can sell items in the auction. TTOS rules and sellers' fees will apply. Buyers are charged California state sales taxes on all auction purchases, unless they have a valid resellers permit. This could be a **win-win** for the two clubs, as we hope to get new members joining **both** organizations! See you July 10th....

# 'Patriotic Trains' for our 2022 Hot Dog Cookout!

Let's all head down to Southern California's Orange County in August for our TCA Western Division **Hot Dog Express!**



The founder of the feast, TCA Western Division Past-President **Steve Eastman**, will be grilling in his backyard, the trains will be running in the garage, and you're invited!

The particulars are Saturday, August 20th, 2022 at 1:00pm. Please **RSVP** to Steve Eastman at (714) 319-9483 (talk or text) by Thursday, August 18th, and you'll get his address and any special instructions. Please let him know how many in your party. If you want to sell trains outdoors, please provide your own table and let Steve know.



Photo of actress **Ann Blyth** is ©1947 by Universal Pictures Company, Inc. — *Permission granted for newspaper and magazine reproduction.* [Colorized version is courtesy **Reddit/LJM22**.] Miss Blyth will celebrate her 94th birthday on August 16th, 2022. To learn more about the career of Ann Blyth, click: <https://annblythactresssingerstar.blogspot.com>.

Mr. Eastman will provide the hot dogs, Polish sausage, buns and condiments. Veggie dogs will be available for boiling. The club will provide soft drinks & bottled water. The rest will be potluck...

If your last name starts with **A-N**, please bring side dishes. If your last name starts with **O-Z**, please bring desserts.



The theme will be **Patriotic Trains**; that could be "red, white and blue" trains or "military and space" trains.

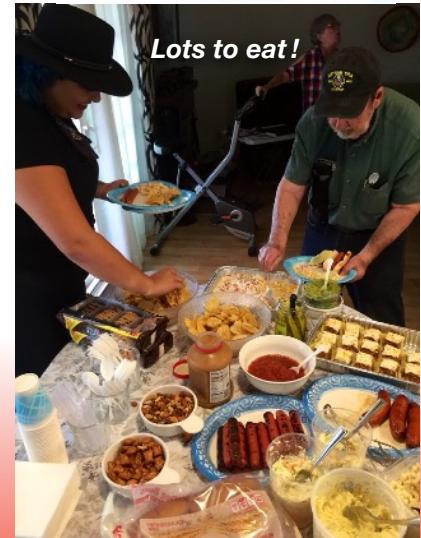
We'll also award door prizes to lucky TCA Members, plus we'll have an Opportunity Drawing. (You must be present to win.)

**Hope to see you in August!**

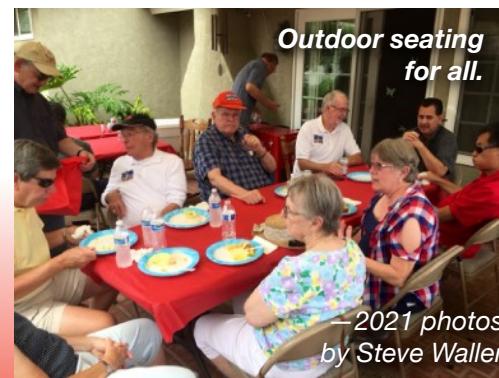
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**Hot Dog De Luxe!**



**Bob & Joseph Caplan**  
train-watching.



**TCA Wiener-Mobile**



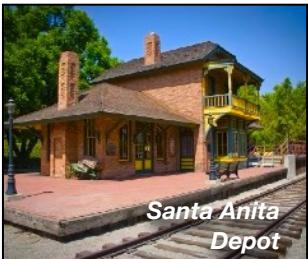
**Steve Eastman & Bill Senyak serve,**



## Pete De Beers: 1945 - 2021

Peter W. DeBeers (TCA #78-12310) was born on August 6, 1945. He grew up in Pasadena, California. A graduate of Pasadena High School, he also attended Pasadena City College.

After serving with the Navy in Vietnam as a field medic, Peter received the Silver Star Medal and other ribbons of achievement. He came back to Pasadena to work 30 years for the US Postal Service as a driver of large USPS mail trucks. He and his wife, Georgia, were married 47 years. They lived on South Los Robles Avenue in Pasadena for more than 30 years.



Pete's love of toy trains led him to become a collector, participating in clubs, train shows, and serving as a volunteer at the Los Angeles County Arboretum at the historic **Santa Anita Depot** in Arcadia, CA. Pete was in the model railroad hobby for most of

his life and accumulated quite a collection of train and trolley models.

Pete's ATSF E6  
"O" gauge diesel at  
**Santa Anita Depot**  
(see above).



Pete served on the Board of Directors of TCA Western Division from 1988 through 1990, including two years as Membership Secretary. His wife Georgia was club Secretary in 1986.



*SCTC - HO gauge  
Traction models*

Pete joined the Southern California Traction Club as an active member in May 2002. He supported almost every SCTC appearance, including an impressive setup at the 2003 TCA National Convention in Ontario, CA, hosted by Western Division.



*—2016 photo  
by Steve Waller*

*Lecturing on the Pacific Electric Ry. at  
the Gilb Museum of Arcadia Heritage.*

Utilizing know-how acquired from his vocation, Pete could often be seen towing the SCTC trailer for club shows. He had a large number of HO model electric railway vehicles

that were approved for SCTC operation.

Pete passed away on May 1, 2021 at the age of 75. His wife Georgia, pre-deceased him just four months earlier, on February 2, 2021, at the age of 79. They will be missed by their family and many friends in the hobby.



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### TCA Western Division Officers:

**Tom Watson** - Western Division President  
**Robert Caplan** - Vice-President/  
Past National President  
**Wayne Sheriff** - Treasurer, Membership Secretary/  
Past National President  
**Jon Lang** - Recording Secretary

### Train Collectors Assoc. Western Division

#### Directors at Large:

(in alphabetical order)

**Steve Eastman** - Layouts/Past President  
**Harold Shapiro** - Webmaster/Past President  
**Stephen Waller** - Newsletter Editor/  
Immediate Past President



#### TCA Western Division Volunteers:

**Joseph Caplan** - Kid's Club Coordinator  
**Roger Hill** - Western Division Photographer  
**Bob Spellmire** - Elections Supervisor/  
Past President